Faculty In Focus– CAPA

Visual Arts
Year 9 Visual Arts students have begun their studies this year by looking closely at the world through the camera. Learning to create close-up images using the macro setting on a camera has given students insight into new worlds, image composition and skills in using compact cameras. Macro photos should have sharp imagery and a background which is out of focus (bokeh effect). Depth of field is shallow in this type of photo. Further to the newsletter, examples of macro shots by Year 9 art students are currently on display in the school foyer.

Music Department
Mandatory Music Course (Stage 4)
All students in Years 7 and 8 complete the Music Mandatory course. Both Year 7 and 8 students complete Music in two semester blocks, one in Year 7 and the other in Year 8.

Students in Year 7 learn about music notation and ‘The Instruments of the Orchestra’ whilst learning to play beginner level keyboard and glockenspiel. Students in Year 8 learn about ‘The History of Rock Music’ and its various styles, whilst learning to play basic guitar and drums. Year 8 students also build on the listening skills and notation skills developed in Year 7.
As part of their assessment, each student has 4 notation books (designed to improve their ability to read and write music) to complete by the end of Year 8. There are two books for students to complete in Year 7 and two books for students in Year 8. Extra notation booklets are available for students who require extension activities. If they fail to complete these books on time, each student is expected to catch up their notation books in their own time, including recess and lunch times.

Each student also receives set homework activities (outside their assessment tasks). These include literacy, numeracy and research tasks.

**Stage 6 – Music - Course 1 (Preliminary)**

Students in Year 11 have the option of studying Music for another 200 hours. Students will study Methods of Notating Music, Jazz Music and a topic of their own choice. As part of this course, students further develop their performance, aural (listening), musicology (music theory) and composition skills.

It is expected that each Stage 6 student actively participates in every activity and learn an instrument during their own time.

**Vocal Group**

Canowindra High School has a small vocal group which performs annually at Productions, Anzac Day and other school functions. Vocal has started this term, with rehearsals being held at lunch on Mondays. All students from years 7-12 are invited to join.

**ROCK BAND**

Canowindra High School Rock Band has experienced great success performing in school productions and concerts, with many of the members performing at school assemblies. Currently, the rock band is re-grouping as a number of our more senior members left in 2015. Rock Band rehearsals have started, with practise at lunchtime on Tuesdays. Currently we have a range of vocalists and guitarists. However, we are actively seeking a bass guitarist and drummer. New members are welcome as students are rotated through a range of repertoire.

**MUSIC: COUNT US IN**

This year, Canowindra High School has registered to participate in the song that stops a nation. This year, the selected song will be performed by over half a million students on November 3rd. This year is the 10th Anniversary and will be the fourth year our school has participated in the National event, designed to involve thousands of students and adults to participate in playing and performing music.

Music: Count Us In is an initiative of Music: Play For Life, a campaign to involve more people to participate in music activities throughout Australia.

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**Principal’s News**

This Wednesday we will receive our staffing allocation for the year and as previously mentioned we should, with our increase in student numbers, see a subsequent increase in staffing, both teaching and administration. Thanks to our projected budget and increase in equity funding we have already been able to purchase additional School Learning Support Officer time to support students in class. The school executive will consider where the greatest need exists for our students before we allocate any positions or new classes and issue any timetable changes.

Each year we have many volunteers work with our students or assist in driving them to sporting competitions and excursions. This generosity is greatly appreciated but to keep in line with government requirements we now require all of our volunteers to provide their Working With Children Check number before being able to assist. We are aware that many parents already have these due to involvement in community activities but if not the attached link will provide you with the necessary information and requirements. [http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check/volunteers-and-students](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check/volunteers-and-students)

Your child’s safety is a priority for our school and as such it is timely to remind parents to ensure your student is wearing a helmet when travelling to school on a bike and scooter. This is a legal requirement. I would also like to ask parents to be very mindful when dropping students off in the morning in the bus bay area as it can be very busy.

This Wednesday staff will be staying back after school to complete the first three hour session of our alternate staff development day. The three hour session will see teachers working on areas relative to our schools strategic directions: Writing in the Middle Years, School Self-assessment of Practice and Development, and Employee Performance and Conduct.

Congratulations to Brooke Kinsela for being last week’s winner of the Canteen voucher.

Neryle Smurthwaite
Principal
BYOD Update

BYOD is off and running at Canowindra High School. Andrew Hetherington our BYOD Head Teacher has been kept busy inservicing staff and getting into classrooms. Students are gaining access to our DET network and using devices in class to enhance learning opportunity. The aim of our program to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource collaboration, innovation and communication.

A Copy of our BYOD policy is provided in this newsletter for those who weren’t able to attend our information evening. When your child brings a device to school they will need to complete a Student Agreement Form available from the front office as is a device specifications sheet.

Message from the Canowindra High School P&C

To all students, staff and parents

The P & C would like to inform you that the Canteen is currently under review. The menu, finances and the way it runs are being closely looked at, we would like to revamp it to make it more cost effective and suitable for our current students. We would appreciate your help in this process. If you have any suggestions and would like to assist us, please come along to the next P & C meeting on Tuesday 23 of this month at 5pm in the school staff room. If you are unable to make the meeting please email any suggestions to Anna Stanley kenstanley70@gmail.com or contact the school. We would love to see new faces at our P & C meetings, everyone is welcome anytime. We look forward to your suggestions and help.

Canowindra High School P & C

Study skills #3 - The iceberg of success

Have you ever looked at a classmate who seems to find learning easy and given up because you could never be like them?

Not only is this fixed minded thinking but when we only look at the end-product of a person’s success, a high mark in a maths test for example, we are only seeing the tip of the iceberg. What remains hidden is like the part of the iceberg that is beneath the water.

CANTEEN MENU

The canteen is looking at changing their menu. Every week until the end of term new meals will be trialled and new ideas are welcomed in helping to transform the canteen into a brighter, welcoming place to eat. If you have any suggestions please let Sue know in the canteen or drop a note in the suggestion box in the Canteen.

If you really like one of the meal options on the menu (such as spag bol or fish and chips) let Sue know so we can keep it there all the time. We want to challenge you to try our new menu and we want your feedback. Watch out for the Canteens ST PATRICK’S DAY menu where we will be offering Lepicorn Burgers, Pot of Gold Pie followed by Witches Brew and Shrek Cakes.

See you in the Canteen
Canowindra High School

Girl’s Afternoon

Thursday 25th February from 3.30pm - 5.30pm
Bring in some afternoon tea to share. Come along for an afternoon of fun and games. Don’t forget your swimmers and a towel for the slip n slide!

Any questions can be directed to Mrs Porter.

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Snake Tails

Students in Years 7, 8 and 11 & 12 Biology are invited to attend the reptile show Snake Tails on Thursday March 3rd 2016

The visiting reptile show has a variety of reptiles with which students are able to get up close and personal! Information and discussions centre around biological classification; reptile life cycles, diet, adaptations and survival; and safety around reptiles.

The Snake Tails presentation will be held in the Jack Sherwin Memorial Hall at 12pm.

Cost to attend is $7.00 and is to be paid at the front office by Monday 29th February 2016.

Please see Mrs McKenzie with any questions or concerns. Reptile enthusiasts from other year groups should see Mrs McKenzie as attendance may be negotiated....

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What’s On

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Assessments Due

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